

GWEN MOORE
4TH DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

COMMITTEE ON
FINANCIAL SERVICES
CAPITAL MARKETS, INSURANCE, AND
GSEs SUBCOMMITTEE
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
OPPORTUNITY SUBCOMMITTEE
DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL MONETARY
POLICY, TRADE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMITTEE

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS

COMMITTEE ON BUDGET



Congress of the United States House of Representatives

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April 2, 2009

The Honorable David Obey
Chair

Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education and Related
Agencies

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Todd Tiahrt
Ranking Member

Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health
and Human Services, Education and Related
Agencies

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Alan Mollohan
Chair

Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science and Related Agencies

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Ranking Member

Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce,
Justice, Science and Related Agencies

U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairmen Obey and Mollohan and Ranking Members Tiahrt and Wolf:

Domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking affect at least 1 in 4 American women and touch the lives of many families and individuals. The Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) and the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) are two Federal programs that have successfully served these women and their families in communities across the country. FVPSA has provided safe haven to victims fleeing domestic violence for over 20 years, and VAWA has helped victims and families in our communities and made substantial progress toward ending domestic and sexual violence since 1994. **We urge you to fully fund FVPSA and VAWA programs in the Department of Health and Human Services at \$320 million and the Department of Justice at \$683 million in FY10, respectively.**

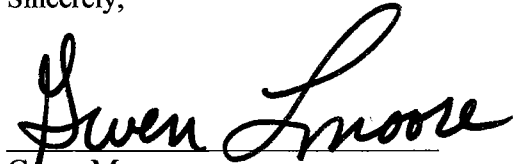
According to the National Census of Domestic Violence Services, on one day in 2008 over 60,500 adults and children sought support from local domestic violence programs. Due to lack of resources, there were 8,927 unmet requests for services. Victims of stalking and dating violence nationwide remain significantly underserved, and there are still large parts of the country that do not have sufficient resources to provide basic services to victims of sexual violence. The economic concerns currently facing families across the country only exacerbates the potential for family violence, and it is vital that we provide communities with the resources needed to meet this growing need.

FVPSA and VAWA programs in the Labor-HHS-Education and Commerce, Justice, Science Appropriations bills support law enforcement, courts, rape crisis centers, shelters, children's services, prevention programs, community outreach, and other state and local programs that provide services for victims and families. Since VAWA was enacted in 1994, rates of non-fatal and fatal domestic violence have decreased, more victims feel confident to come forward to report these crimes and seek services, and states have passed over 600 laws to combat these

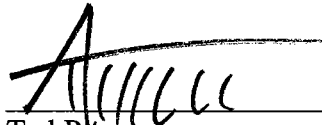
crimes. In addition to saving lives, it is estimated that VAWA saved nearly \$14.8 billion in net averted social costs in its first six years alone.

We are pleased with gains made for these programs in the FY09 Omnibus bill, as well as the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which represents a shift from previous trends. We urge you to continue to invest in the progress and promise of FVPSA and VAWA by fully funding the programs in both the LHHS and CJS budgets. **Full funding of FVPSA and VAWA are critical investments in our communities that will save lives, rebuild families, and prevent future crimes.** Thank you for your consideration of this request.

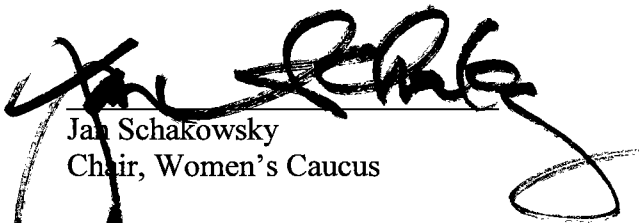
Sincerely,



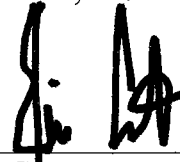
Gwen Moore
Vice Chair, Women's Caucus



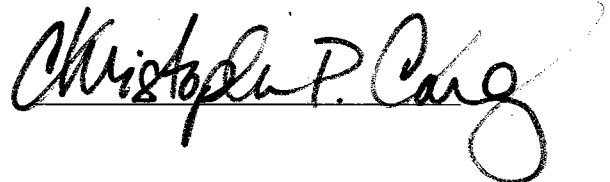
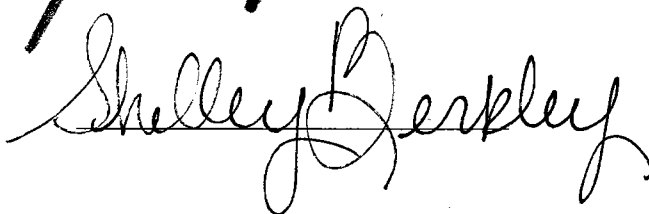
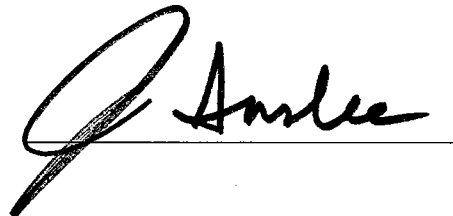
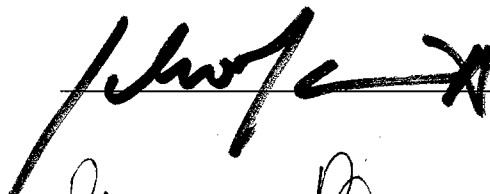
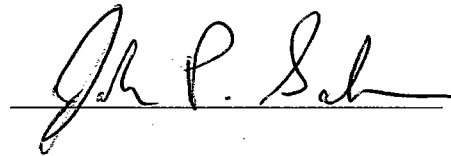
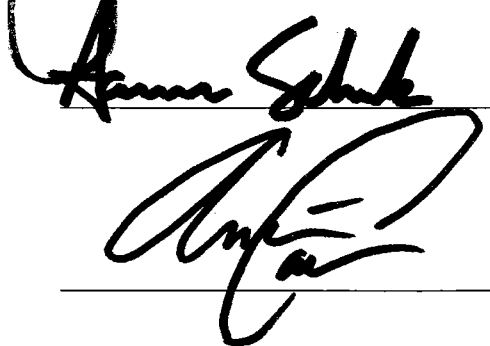
Ted Poe
Co-Chair, Victims' Rights Caucus



Jan Schakowsky
Chair, Women's Caucus



Jim Costa
Co-Chair, Victims' Rights Caucus



Ana Tetar

Stephanie Frost Sandler

Pete Stone

Lee Courtney

Jim Sangwin

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B. M. M.

Mary Jo Hilary

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Hearts.

Lynn Woolsey

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Jerry Moran

Barry Styrak

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Howard L. Berma

Gill G. G. G.

D. Benoit

Greg Carnahan

Michael H. Michael